

# WILL KNOFF HIT TO RECORDS SHOULD FEEL CAN DO IT

In 44 Years of Baseball, Only 31 Batsmen Have Ever Been Able to Hit 400 or Over and Only Three Are Left in Big Leagues; Tip O'Neill's Mark of .492 in American Association in 1886 Still Unbeaten.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Here's some of those stories that always cause us to feel long-whiskered, and put a high, quavering note, as of senility, in the keys of the 1935-model typewriter.

We've been browsing around in the Sporting Outcomes of baseball, that's where we've been, and that's why we look so antique and speak so fossilized. But let us explain why we went and what we have been doing.

It began with one of those hypothetical questions—a question born of the little gun and mental fortitude. No, we did not have either. It was another fellow. It was a fellow with a vacant eye and a sad complexion. We found him hanging on our lapel the other afternoon.

"What," said he, inquisitively, "is the greatest possible—and probable—individual feat that a baseball player can accomplish in a season's work?"

"You said possible and probable," we argued. "You are let out on both sides."

"It is possible," he stated, dogmatically. "It is quite probable now. You forget Benny Kauff is with us."

So we had, so we had, Benny Kauff says—or is quoted as saying—that he will hit .400 in the National League some season or other, and Benjamin may do it. If he does he will be performing a very, very remarkable feat. It is very hard to do—that hitting .400. We've been looking it up—way down under in the archives—and it is no small task. One is half inclined to agree with our hypothetical friend that it is the greatest possible individual feat for a pastime. We do not agree, however, that it is probable it will be accomplished by H. Kauff.

In 44 years of baseball—there we go back there, now—only 31 of the thousands of men who have been in the game in that period have reached the .400 batting mark. But three are left in the big leagues—Ty Cobb, Joe Jackson and Nap Lajoie. It has been some 15 years since the National League had a .400 batsman, and that was in 1923, Ed Delahanty hit .408 that season.

These .400 boys.

It has been some 40 years since Joe Jackson, with .408, forced Ty Cobb to a mark of .450 to beat him out of the batting leadership of 1911. The other hitters of baseball history were: A. C. Anderson of Chicago; Dan Brouthers of Detroit; Pete Browning of Louisville; Gus Farnum of Chicago; E. A. Burch of Brooklyn; Jess Burkett of Cleveland and St. Louis; T. P. Burns of Baltimore; Fred Clarke of St. Louis; Fred Clarke of Pittsburgh; Hugh Duffy of Boston; Fred Dunlap of St. Louis; T. J. Egan of the Mets; C. J. Ferguson of Philadelphia; Willie Keeler of Baltimore; Dennis Lyons of the Athletics; D. Mack of Louisville; L. Meyerle of Philadelphia; A. J.

## Willard-Moran Bout May Be Slow Should Be 20 Rounds To Decision

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—It doesn't seem to us that a 10-round bout between Jess Willard and Frank Moran will be worth the price of admission.

A 20 round bout between the pair, in some state where decisions are permitted, would mean a real battle, but a 10 round scrap probably would prove a disappointment.

However, there were at least five promoters who were anxious to put up \$15,000 to \$20,000 for the fight. Moran will be worth the price of admission to see the pair in action. But it is unlikely that a Moran-Willard fight, over a 10 round route, would be anything other than a "waiting-out" match.

Willard fights a slow, cautious fight. He is not a mixer. He does not wait for the other fellow to wear himself out. Moran fights along the same line. Neither man is in the aggressive class, so, judged by their past records, each fighter would try to out-wait the other.

"Waiting-out" Battle.

Both Moran and Willard realize that the only way they could clinch the match is to rush out and take a chance on the other slipping over a sleep-producing wallow. Each knows that the other "picks" such a punch. But why should either get out and take a chance when he loses nothing by waiting.

Naturally, Willard would like to lend a knockout punch upon Moran's jaw. That would clinch Willard's claim that he is the greatest heavyweight fighter in the world. And just as naturally, Moran would like to put out Willard and thus gain the championship. There's incentive enough for both men to stand toe-to-toe and slug from the first round to the last, but the chances of their doing it are remote.

Should a 10 round bout between the pair be staged, Moran undoubtedly will be the aggressor. He will try to gain if he wins on points. Nothing but a newspaper decision. Willard will retain the championship. Moran's only hope for victory would be a knockout. The knockout route, and the chances are only one in 10 that he could shove a coma-developing wallow over during that period.

Should Fight 20 Rounds.

Willard is a glutton for punishment; so is Moran. Both are husky and both can travel 10 rounds without feeling any fatigue. About the only way to knock out either—unless a lucky punch should flatter the other to wear the other down. And that can't be done in 10 rounds.

It seems a mistake to match Moran and Willard over a 10 round no-decision route. The fighting game won't be helped by such a match. It may knock out either, but the chances are it will hurt the game. The pair would be matched over a 20 round or longer route in a state where decisions are permitted. Each man would know then that he would have to fight to win each round, and that points would figure in the result. In such a case, it is likely that both men would forget their "waiting-out" style of battling and would jump into the center of the ring with the clang of each kong and slug away.

CALLAHAN DEFEATS PALMER BY HEAVY BODY BLOWS

Milwaukee, Wis., Feb. 15.—Frankie Callahan, Brooklyn lightweight, defeated Benny Palmer of Memphis, Monday night, a slow ten round bout of a double windy-card here, while Len Rowlands, Milwaukee, won a quick, snappy fight with Art Magill of Oklahoma City.

Callahan wore his opponent down by heavy body blows in infighting, while Magill forced the milling in his bout with Rowlands.

## GARCON WAS RIGHT

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## Tinker Learned Baseball With Cubs One Warning Made Him Hit the Ball

BY JOE TINKER.

AT THE breakfast table I asked Jack Taylor, the old pitcher, what that horrible racket was.

He laughed heartily. "Schaefer and I were doing a little practicing," he said. "You see, he's going to play first today, and last night he discovered that a first baseman has to shift his feet around pretty lively. So we got a big washbowl for a base, and Schaefer got his new glove, and we went at it. I threw at him from a lot of different angles, and Schaefer got plenty of good practice in changing his feet."

But "Germany" was little better at first than he had been at third, so the situation was not solved in the least. Charles Dextler, who was a dandy boy personally, saw his finish come. Sooner or later, he would be a regular at second base with the team and, that was before Johnny Evers broke in as a serious contender for the key-stone sack.

Dextler Had An Alibi.

Dextler could invent more plausible alibis for erratic work than any man I ever met in baseball. Never the steadiest player in the world, he would instantly explain to you in a most convincing way just why it was his throw went bad or why that grounder wasn't scooped up or how it came that he went for five or six days without getting a hit.

We were at the Bingham hotel, and had gone to bed about 10:30, when up through the arway of the hotel came some terrific bumps and pops and an occasional "How's that?" and "Ge, that's the way. I was thoroughly mystified. The next morning

## "Beck's" Amen Corner

DILLON didn't make an awful hit in his ten-round bout with Battling Levinsky in Brooklyn last week. He got a shade verdict but R. L. Goldberg, in the New York Mail, said: "Dillon has no more right to fight Willard than William J. Bryan has to lunch with the president of an ammunition factory." Dillon was reported to be very tired in the tenth round, when Levinsky tore in hard.

MANAGER Joe Tinker, of the Chicago Nationals, says the Braves offered him an even trade of Johnny Evers for Heinie Zimmerman and he turned it down. "I wouldn't trade Heinie for Evers and the whole Brave infield," said Tinker.

RECEIPTS in the Willard-Johnson battle at Havana were, according to the "expose" of press agent John R. Robinson in Collier's, \$115,300. That's a whole lot better than a lot of us figured.

WALL STREET planners have started "making book" on the Moran-Willard exhibition and the champion is quoted favorite at 7 to 10.

MARYLAND legislature is now wrestling with an anti-racing bill. If it passes, betting of any description will be prohibited on Maryland tracks and the newspapers will not be allowed to print results of races in any state or county where betting is allowed.

MARTIN DELANEY, veteran instructor of the Chicago Athletic club, thinks the sport writers of this country have given Jess Willard proper credit for his boxing ability. Delaney says that "Willard is the most shifty giant heavyweight boxer I ever saw in action." Wonder if Martin stuck in that word "giant" deliberately? Perhaps Delaney is putting Willard in a "giant" class all by himself.

WESTERN baseball magnates held their annual meeting on Monday and one El Pasoan who watched developments very closely was Harry Kane, the umpire. Harry expects to find a Western league contract in his mail by Thursday.

throw, heaved it about ten feet over the first baseman's head.

Three runs went over the plate and the game was lost right there.

Dextler ran down to me with considerable excitement, said: "Joe, did you see that ball take a shoot after it left my hand? It was going straight for the glove over there and all of a sudden started to shoot up. How do you account for that?"

I couldn't and when the inning was finally over Dextler walked in to the bench still explaining. He sat down next to tell about the ball shooting up after it left his hand.

Seles listened patiently and then turning to Dextler remarked dryly: "Yes, Charles, I understand all about those shots of yours. And that one you just let go will be your last shot on this ball team."

And Dextler was released that night. Seles had a wonderful way of correcting a player's mistakes without causing the loss of a bit of the player's confidence. That was a remarkable feat, and I never have seen it so sharply developed in any man as it was in this famous character of the diamond.

Seles Just a Man.

He was entirely just, but he hated excuses. Rather he preferred a man to suffer in silence after a booble on the field than to listen to him start off a long talk on just how it happened. I've often been asked if there ever came a time during my career with the Cubs when they were going to lay me off. There were two occasions, as I remember it, once under Seles and once under Charlie. I'll tell you briefly about the Seles case and hold the chance incident for another time.

We were about to start on an east-

ern trip, and Seles came to me the night we left and said quietly: "Joe, you're in an awful, batting slump. What seems to be the trouble? I'll have to give you a little rest if things don't improve, my boy."

I started batting like a fiend in the east that trip and finished up with a .400 mark before we got home. Seles never mentioned it again, nor did I, but I could tell from his manner that it was just what he had expected me to do.

Seles Proved Real Teacher.

As I look back now over all the years I have been in baseball, little and big, good and bad, Frank Seles taught me more actual baseball than I ever got from any other source. In addition to being a wonderful judge of a young player, he could judge the opposition style of play in a flash and seldom made mistakes in a counter attack.

I've seen him sit around in a gathering with his eyes half closed and apparently listening to nothing at all. Somebody would be giving him a tip on some young ball player, but he wouldn't be listening at all. Suddenly, when the subject had passed to something else, he would answer himself and say: "How did you say that young fellow batted—right or left?" or something like that showing he had been revolving the thing in his mind all the time.

MINING COMPANY TRACK TEAMS TO HAVE CONTEST.

Bisbee, Ariz., Feb. 15.—A track meet between teams of the Copper Queen and Calumet and Arizona mining company employees is scheduled for about the middle of March.

Loose Leaf Memo books and ledgers, "L. P." and "De Luxe," 25c up. El Paso Book Co. Mills Bldg. "It's Handy." Adv.

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Marshall's STATEMENT

"I am an accountant, connected with the office of the First National Bank Building, El Paso. I believe the people ought to know the facts concerning my case. About 3 months ago my health declined rapidly until I became an invalid in the full sense of the term.

"My nerves were shattered, my digestion was so weakened that I could take little food, and that, without apparent benefit, while my weight was reduced thirty pounds. An examination of my blood showed a marked lack of red corpuscles. I was advised to try VITOLON. I am now using the fifth bottle. My recovery has been rapid and remarkable for a man of my age. I have regained my weight and my system is in good condition. VITOLON is certainly the greatest remedy ever discovered to cleanse and enrich the blood, stimulate the liver, and restore the digestive organs to health. I will be glad to go more into detail with any one similarly afflicted, either personally or by writing. This remedy should be kept in every home, as even a few large doses is extraordinary in its results."

Signed CHAS. L. MARSHALL, 1507 N. 10th St., El Paso, Tex. Representative of the Vitobol Co., at Kelly-Pollard's.

CACTUS club plays Mines in the City Basketball league game at the gym on Wednesday night. It is likely that the Cactus will use its second string men, which should result in an interesting contest. The first string Cactus team is too fast for Mines but the second bunch should put up a good battle with the students.

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## WILLARD SICK; FIGHT IN DOUBT

Champion's Cold Has Settled in Throat and Training is Suspended.

Chicago, Ill., Feb. 15.—Jess Willard's fight with Frank Moran, March 3, may have to be postponed because of trouble which the big fellow is having with a cold, which has settled in his throat.

Willard lost several days a week ago because of the cold. Then he went at it again, but lacked vigor and Monday remained in bed.

The report that the fight might be postponed is said to have originated in a long distance telephone conversation between one of the promoters in New York and his representative here. The latter will see Willard today to learn the latter's views as to the advisability of deferring the combat.

Champion's Voice Weak.

New York, Feb. 15.—Tom Jones, manager for Willard, declared that the champion was so ill that he might not be able to come to New York until late in the week. He said that in talking to Willard over the telephone Monday, Willard's voice was very weak and he could scarcely hear him. Jones added that under no circumstances would he consent to have Willard enter the match with Moran here on March 3, unless the champion is in perfect physical condition.

"We would pass up our purse and guarantee," asserted Jones.

## BOWLING

Scores in the Industrial League matches on the Cactus club alleys, Monday night, were as follows:

Joe Estate	146	24	53	711
Joe Neville	145	144	145	514
R. White	143	144	145	431
R. Roberts	141	125	144	429
C. L. Woodley	132	129	121	381
W. Dask	133	128	139	398

Totals	779	688	804	2271
Swift & Co.	147	24	53	711
J. H. Langford	147	181	167	495
J. H. Jago	149	159	145	453
J. R. Fawcett	116	122	124	362
J. L. Dwyer	202	143	133	478
F. Gilmore	118	146	176	440

Totals 722 738 764 2224

Points won, Heat Estate 4; high game, Dask 216; high total, Dask 364; strike out, Langford.

El Paso Laundry	147	24	53	711
R. A. Smith	146	144	145	431
Ray Smith	146	128	129	403
N. S. Rheinheimer	141	142	144	427
R. Palmer	127	122	121	370
A. C. Rhinheimer	132	131	291	553

Totals	1112	728	821	2261
Conent Plant	146	24	53	711
R. L. Clark	143	147	121	411
W. L. Anderson	145	126	122	423
R. R. Henry	132	145	54	331
N. Taylor	148	125	121	424
C. Gering	124	152	164	440

Totals 722 738 764 2224

Points won, Laundry 1; Conent Plant 1; high game, Rhinheimer 291; high total, Rhinheimer 553.

## LOUISIANA AND CHAVES FIGHT TEN ROUNDS TO DRAW

Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 15.—Louisiana of Philadelphia and Benny Chaves of Trinidad, Colo., featherweights, fought ten fast rounds to a draw here Monday night. Louisiana took the fourth and sixth rounds by a wide margin, but Chaves' working finish won him an even break. Both boys made the required weight of 124 pounds at six o'clock.

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